



Reception Newsletter

Autumn 1

General welcome

We are thrilled to welcome you and your child to our Reception class! This is an exciting time as your child embarks on their educational journey and we are committed to making this a positive and enriching experience for both you and your child.

Our Learning Environment

In Reception, we focus on creating a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment where children can explore, discover, and learn through play and structured activities. Our curriculum is designed to support all areas of your child's development, including social, emotional, physical, and cognitive growth.

Daily Routine

Our daily routine includes a mix of teacher-led activities, child-initiated play, and outdoor exploration. This balance helps children develop independence, creativity, and a love for learning. Here is a brief overview of a typical day in Reception:

8:45-9:00- Register and settle in. 9:00-9:30- Phonics, 9:30-10:10 Continuous provision, 10:10-10:30 Toast and Milk. 10:30- 11:00 Literacy. 11:00-11:30 Outdoor provision. 11:30-11:45 Wash hands and go to lunch. Lunch 11:45-12:45. 12:45-13:00 Register. 13:00-13:30 - Maths. 13:30- 14:30 indoor and outdoor continuous provision. 14:30-15:00 UTW/Music/PSHE which changes daily. 15:00-15:15 get ready to go home.

Communication

We believe that strong communication between home and school is essential for your child's success. Here are some ways we keep in touch and involve you in your child's learning. We have an open Door Policy: so feel free to speak with us if you have any questions or need to discuss anything about your child's experience.

Key Dates

- **8th September- Parent workshops 15:30 and 16:00.**
- 12th September Roald Dahl Day
- 26th September European day of languages.
- 24th September Flu Vaccinations.
- 20th October Harvest Donations in.
- 24th October Harvest assembly and spooky lunch then we break up for half term.

Reading

After your child has settled into Reception, we will send home their first reading book. We kindly ask you to try to read with your child every night, even if it is for a short time.

PE Reminders

PE lessons in Reception will take place on Friday mornings. Please ensure your child has their full PE kit with them in school at all times.

The children will be reminded to take their kits home at the end every half term for a wash. Please return their P.E kits on the first day back after a school holiday ready for their next P.E lesson.

Keep up to date....

Weekly news and photographs will be shared on School Spider through a Group Conversation. Please look out for a notification of these updates.

ENGLISH

In English we will focus on a story and explore the elements of it, e.g. the characters, the beginning, the middle and the ending. We will do this through our carpet times as well as through our play in the continuous provision. We will share our focus stories with you so that you can talk about them at home. Alongside this we will begin to use adjectives to describe elements of the story or characters.

We will also be recognising and finding rhymes within a story.

MATHS

In Maths we will be doing lots of counting and playing number recognition games. Please help by counting anything and everything with your children. Mathematics – This term we will be:

- Counting from 1-10
- Matching, sorting and comparing objects
- Finding patterns.

PHONICS

In phonics This half term we will begin Super Sonic Phonic Friends Basics 2.

Basics 2 - Children will begin the learning the sounds of letters in the following order:

s, a, t, p, l, n, m, d, g, o, c, k, e, e, r, h, b, f, l, ff, ll, s and ss

Children will learn to blend and segment simple CVC words using these sounds in their reading and writing.

Our Curriculum Overview

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORLD

This term we are learning about 'Ourselves'. We will be talking about the things that make us unique and the similarities and differences between our friends and families.

We will talk about and explore Diwali, fireworks night, Christmas around the world and Under the sea habitats.

Autumn – We will also be observing the changes in the seasons.

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

This term, we will be focusing on circle time discussions and being able to talk about their weekends.

EXPRESSIVE ART

This term we offer a diverse range of art activities:

Sculpture: Using clay, playdough, and other materials to create three-dimensional objects.

Printmaking: Creating patterns and images using stamps, vegetables, and other objects.

Making collages and puppets using a range of materials.

We will also be doing some baking.

PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL

We will focus on settling in and making friends through:

- Circle time discussions about feelings and experiences.
- Valuing and understanding our differences.
- Games and activities that promote teamwork and sharing.
- Our first SCARF unit is: Valuing Differences.

Home Learning

English & Maths

Homework will now be set on a termly basis using a 'Pick and Mix' style document, which can be found on our website. There will be enough tasks for children to choose 1 per week. We would like to encourage you to upload photographs of any work completed to Purple Mash towards the end of the term, so that we can celebrate children's achievements by sharing in class. There is a step-by-step guide on the Reception class page for this.

Phonics/Spelling

We will begin to teach 'Supersonic Phonic Friends' Phonics this term. It would greatly help your child understand the purpose of phonics if they regularly look for letters and signs all around them. e.g. the T in Tesco.

As well as phonics, we are practicing name writing in class. Any extra practice at home would be greatly appreciated.

Please access our phonics teaching videos on our website

<https://www.jamesbrindleyprimary.com/phonics/>

To further support independent reading for pleasure, take a look at the suggestions below that are linked to specific topics and authors we are focusing on this half term:

Rainbow fish– Marcus Pfister

Meesha Makes Friends– Tom Percival

In every house, on every street– Jess Hitchman

Don't Hog the Hedge

Pumpkin Soup– Helen Cooper

Online Resources

This half term we will be doing lots of counting and playing number recognition games. Please help by counting anything and everything with your children.

Click on the link to find lots of fun maths games you can enjoy at home.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/Search.aspx?Subject=16&AgeGroup=1>